

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior Listings and versions of claims in this application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1.-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently amended) The core of claim ~~[[26]]~~ 40, wherein the locking means comprises detents.

28. (Previously presented) The core of claim 27, wherein the flange and the detents have opposing support surfaces.

29. (Previously presented) The core of claim 28, wherein the support surfaces of the flange and the detents are parallel.

30. (Previously presented) The core of claim 27, further comprising a flexible portion extending from a first end towards a second end of the intermediate portion, wherein the detents are provided at a second end of the flexible portion.

31. (Previously presented) The core of claim 30, wherein a thickness of the flexible portion at a base thereof is less than the thickness of a remaining portion of the flexible portion.

32. (Previously presented) The core of claim 27, wherein the flange is connected to a first end of the intermediate portion, the detents are connected to a second end of the intermediate portion, and the detents extend outwardly towards a periphery of the flange.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently amended) The core of claim ~~[[34]]~~ 41, wherein the tongues have alternating lengths.

36. (Currently amended) The core of claim ~~[[34]]~~ 41, wherein the means for providing strain relief is connected to an inner circumference of the intermediate portion.

37. (Currently amended) The core of claim ~~[[33]]~~ 41, wherein the means for providing strain relief is detachably connectable to the core.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Currently amended) The core of claim ~~[[38]]~~ 30, wherein the flexible covering encloses the flexible ~~portions~~ portion.

40. (Currently amended) ~~The core of claim 38, wherein~~ A core for supporting a covering of a cable entry device, comprising at least one axially extending intermediate portion connected to a flange, and means for instantly locking the core to a surrounding material when inserted into a hole thereof, wherein at least the intermediate portion is enclosed by a flexible covering, and the flexible covering comprises a lip for enclosing the means for providing strain relief.

41. (Currently amended) ~~The core of claim 36, wherein~~ A core for supporting a covering of a cable entry device, comprising at least one axially extending intermediate portion connected to a flange, means for instantly locking the core to a surrounding material when inserted into a hole thereof and means for providing strain relief, wherein the means for providing strain relief comprises flexible tongues extending radially towards a center of the core and in a direction for insertion of the cable into the core, the means for providing strain relief is connected to an inner circumference of the intermediate portion, and the covering comprises an entry having an internal surface extending in a longitudinal direction of the core for abutting against a cable when inserted through the entry, and the entry is supported by the core when compressed.

42. (Currently amended) A cable entry device for providing sealing in a space between a cable and a surrounding material, comprising a core ~~as defined in claim 26~~ for supporting a covering of a cable entry device, comprising at least one axially extending intermediate portion connected to a flange, means for instantly locking the core to a surrounding material when inserted into a hole thereof, and a covering, wherein the covering comprises first and second sealing members for receiving surrounding material therebetween formed by a recess in an outer periphery of the covering, and means for temporarily receiving the second sealing member during insertion of the cable entry device into a hole of the surrounding material.

43. (Previously presented) The device of claim 42, wherein the means for temporarily receiving the second sealing member comprises a recess of the covering having a depth corresponding to the thickness of the second sealing member.

44. (Previously presented) The device of claim 42, wherein the means for temporarily receiving the sealing member comprises an irregular surface of the covering having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion having a diameter corresponding to the diameter of the hole, to which the device is

dimensioned for, and the diameter of the second portion plus twice the thickness of the second sealing member correspond to the diameter of the hole.

45. (Previously presented) The device of claim 44, wherein the second portion extends at least partially through the hole when inserted therein.

46. (Previously presented) The device of claim 42, wherein the first and second sealing members are flexibly connected to the covering.

47. (Previously presented) The device of claim 42, wherein the diameter at a free end of the first sealing member is less than the diameter of a free end of the second sealing member.

48. (Previously presented) The device of claim 42, wherein the first sealing member extends outwardly from a first end of the covering towards the second sealing member, and the second sealing member extends outwardly from a second end of the covering towards the first sealing member.

49. (Previously presented) The device of claim 42, wherein the first sealing member provides a biasing force on the covering when inserted into the hole of the surrounding material.

50. (Previously presented) The device of claim 42, wherein free ends of the first and second sealing members abut a first and a second side of the surrounding material, respectively, when the cable entry device is inserted into a hole therein.